

Council on Postsecondary Education
May 20, 2002

Executive Summary

1. Are more Kentuckians ready for postsecondary education?

The staff recommends that the council approve the adult education budget for 2002-03, authorizing allocation of \$11,648,637 of the \$12 million available in the Adult Education and Literacy Trust Fund for 2002-03 to support continued implementation of the adult education agenda. (For details, see page 29.)

In November 2000, the council approved a strategic agenda and a nine-point plan for adult education in Kentucky. Since that action, enrollment in adult education programs reached a record of 62,734 in 2000-01 and is on track to reach 75,000 in 2001-02. The goal for 2002-03 is 90,000 enrollments. The 2002-03 budget continues the strategic agenda and the nine-point plan. It focuses on workforce training, statewide technology, family literacy, and continued improvements in base funding for the county learning centers. If approved, the council's action will release \$11,648,637 of the \$12 million available in the adult education and literacy trust fund for 2002-03, contingent upon passage of a state budget. We recommend that the council act in May so the staff can begin allocating money July 1 if there is a budget.

We are very pleased that Mr. James Parker of the United States Department of Education is visiting Kentucky. Cheryl King, associate vice president for adult education and director of the Department of Adult Education and Literacy, will introduce Mr. Parker.

A mobile adult education unit will be parked outside the new NKU Science Building. We encourage you to visit this vehicle; it's part of our continuing effort to go where the people are who need adult education services.

Another attempt to extend access and increase the efficiency of teaching adults, the Kentucky Virtual University is working with the Kentucky Department of Adult Education and Literacy to provide Web-based services. Cheryl King and Daniel Rabuzzi, KYVU chief executive officer, will introduce KYVAE.org, the adult education Web portal. Ms. Peg Ramsey, the director of adult education in Kenton County, has been invited to speak briefly about the value of this venture.

In another piece of KYVU news, I am pleased to report that the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, an agency of the United States Department of Education, has accepted our pre-proposal for the project we discussed at the March council meeting. FIPSE received 1,324 pre-proposals and has asked some 190 – ours included – to submit a final proposal. This means that we have passed the first screening and are in the final competition. (We understand that the public health collaborative program proposal submitted by the University of Louisville, the University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University also made the cut. We congratulate them and wish them luck in the final competition.) Our project is to develop further the advising capacity of the KYVU so we can provide academic advice electronically to all students who need and can benefit from it. The council's partners in this project are the Department of Education (the Kentucky Virtual High School), the Kentucky

Higher Education Assistance Authority, the Department of Adult Education and Literacy, and the KCTCS. We think a comprehensive advising network will be an essential ingredient of successful distance learning systems. The final proposal is due in the week following the council meeting and we expect to hear from FIPSE later this summer. The Distance Learning Advisory Committee endorsed this project at its meeting earlier this month.

Also at its May meeting, DLAC discussed the functions of the Kentucky Virtual University call center and reviewed the KYVU's recent selection of WebCT and CyberLearning Lab/Angel as course management system software.

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair returns to Kentucky May 12-18, 2002, for its 53rd annual high school student mathematics, science, and engineering competition.

Kentucky hosted the fair in 1997. This "Olympics of science fairs" is a world-class event with 1,238 national and international student finalists competing for over \$4 million in prizes and scholarships. With 15 percent of the projects already patented, or with patents pending when those students arrive in Louisville, competition will be intense.

The Governor's Office, the Kentucky Department of Education, the Council on Postsecondary Education, and local and industrial leaders are providing cash and in-kind support for the 2002 fair. Kentucky institutions are providing judges to select the winners of the international competition as well as staff and students to serve in essential volunteer roles as interpreters, technicians, and special event coordinators. "Bucks for Brains" and "Program of Distinction" faculty are active participants in student interviews and judging.

Kentucky colleges and universities are offering 60 scholarships in the 14 academic areas of competition, worth over \$1.7 million. Graduate scholarships will be awarded for the first time in the history of the fair. The University of Kentucky will award graduate scholarships and fellowships and the University of Louisville will offer two MD/PhD scholarships that include annual stipends.